

JOHNA.056DV2

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/090,039) Group Art Unit 1654
Filed : February 27, 2002)
Examiner : Susan Coe)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT FOR DISCUSSION**DO NOT ENTER**

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

The following proposed claim is for discussion purposes only. The proposed claim is not to be entered. The Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the following claim.

PROPOSED CLAIM:

21. (Amended) A culture medium, which is capable of supporting growth of viable microorganisms comprising:

a nutrient broth in a flowable, liquid state;

a dye which changes color with a change in pH from a first pH range to a second pH range; and

a dual buffer system comprising a first buffer having a first pK_a and a second buffer having a second pK_a, wherein said first pK_a and said second pK_a are within said first pH range and said second pH range respectively.

REMARKS

A proposed Claim 21 is submitted. The specific changes to Claim 21 is shown above with the insertion underlined. The support for the amendment can be found in the specification.